

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	H. Kutsumi et al.	: Art Unit:
Serial No.:	To Be Assigned	: Examiner:
Filed:	Herewith	:
FOR:	INFORMATION RECOMMENDATION	:
	APPARATUS AND INFORMATION	
	RECOMMENDATION SYSTEM	

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 12:

A first exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 2:

A second exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 19:

A third exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 12:

A fourth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 5:

A fifth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 24:

A sixth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to the fifth exemplary embodiment, wherein the number of registration times of said user is determined (a) by checking the access history of said user with respect to registration or (b) by assigning the user ID of the registrant to said content and by using said user ID.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 6:

A seventh exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 23:

An eighth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to the seventh exemplary embodiment, wherein the conditions to be input to said condition input means are those extracted on the basis of contents registered in the past by a user who will receive recommendation.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 4:

A ninth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to the seventh exemplary embodiment, wherein the characteristic of each item of said user is obtained by calculation each time said user registers said data.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 9:

A tenth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to the seventh exemplary embodiment, wherein the conditions to be input to said condition input means are

extracted on the basis of contents recommended in the past to a user who is attempting to receive recommendation or on the basis of contents recommended to and specified by said user.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 17:

An eleventh exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to the tenth exemplary embodiment, wherein the characteristic of each item of said user is obtained by calculation by characteristic calculation means each time said user receives recommendation or each time said user receives recommendation and specifies the contents.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 25:

A twelfth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to the eighth or tenth exemplary embodiments, wherein, when said conditions are extracted from said contents, said conditions having tendencies opposite to those of said contents are extracted.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 6:

A thirteenth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to the seventh exemplary embodiment, wherein said condition input means inputs said externally input conditions and said automatically extracted conditions, and

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 16:

A fourteenth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 21:

A fifteenth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 15:

A sixteenth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 21:

A seventeenth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 16:

An eighteenth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 16:

A nineteenth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to the seventeenth or eighteenth exemplary embodiments, wherein

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 24:

A twentieth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to one of the first to sixth and thirteenth to nineteenth exemplary embodiments, wherein said condition input means inputs said conditions by using a one-dimensional or two-dimensional interface.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 5:

A twenty-first exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to one of the first to nineteenth exemplary embodiments, wherein said recommendation means does not recommend said contents recommended to a user in a predetermined period in the past to said user again.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 11:

A twenty-second exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to one of the first, second, and fifth to nineteenth exemplary embodiments, wherein said recommendation means selects and recommends contents including a character string coincident with the character string included in said input conditions from said content database.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 18:

A twenty-third exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 19:

A twenty-fourth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation system comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 11:

A twenty-fifth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation system comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 4:

A twenty-sixth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation system comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 23:

A twenty-seventh exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation system comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 21, line 17:

A twenty-eighth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation system comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 12:

A twenty-ninth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation system comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 6:

A thirtieth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation system comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 11:

A thirty-first exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation system comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 7:

A thirty-second exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation system comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 11:

A thirty-third exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation system comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 8:

A thirty-fourth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to an information recommendation system comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 28, line 9:

A thirty-fifth exemplary embodiment of the present invention an information recommendation system comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 29, line 12:

A thirty-sixth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to a program, in an information recommendation apparatus according to the first exemplary embodiment, for making a computer function as all or part of recommendation means of selecting and recommending contents coincident with or similar to conditions input by condition input means of inputting said conditions represented by predetermined items and attribute values corresponding thereto designated through the terminal of a user via the Internet, from among contents formed of plural pieces of data having plural items and attribute values corresponding thereto and stored in a content database in which said contents are registered by registration means.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 29, line 25:

A thirty-seventh exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to a program, in an information recommendation apparatus according to one of second to fourteenth and sixteenth to eighteenth exemplary embodiments, for making a

computer function as all or part of recommendation means of selecting and recommending contents coincident with or similar to conditions input by condition input means of inputting said conditions represented by predetermined items and attribute values corresponding thereto, from among contents formed of plural pieces of data having plural items and attribute values corresponding thereto and stored in a content database in which said contents are registered by registration means.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 30, line 13:

A thirty-eighth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to a program, in an information recommendation apparatus according to the fifteenth exemplary embodiment, for making a computer function as all or part of recommendation means of selecting and recommending recipes coincident with or similar to conditions input by condition input means of inputting said conditions represented by predetermined items and attribute values corresponding thereto, from among said recipes formed of plural pieces of data having plural items and attribute values corresponding thereto and stored in a content database in which said recipes are registered by registration means.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 30, line 25:

The thirty-ninth exemplary embodiment of the present invention relates to a program, in an information recommendation apparatus according to the twenty-third exemplary embodiment, for making a computer function as all or part of recommendation means, in the case when recommendation is performed to said user having an input user ID, of specifying other users whose characteristic information coincident with or similar to said characteristic information to said user having said user ID by using characteristic information, and of selecting and recommending only the contents not recommended to said user having said user ID or the contents recommended to but not specified by said user from among contents registered in the past by said specified user, contents recommended to said user or contents recommended to and specified by said user, from among contents formed of plural pieces of data having plural items and attribute values corresponding thereto and stored in a content database in which said contents are registered by registration means.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 31, line 19:

In the twenty-eighth exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the number of registration times of the user may be determined (a) by checking the access history of the user with respect to registration or (b) by assigning the user ID of the registrant to the content and by using the user ID.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 31, line 24:

In the twenty-ninth exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the conditions to be input to the condition input means may be those extracted on the basis of contents registered in the past by a user who will receive recommendation.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 32, line 3:

In the twenty-ninth exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the system may be provided with a characteristic calculation means of obtaining the characteristic of each item of the user by calculation each time the user registers the data.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 32, line 7:

In the twenty-ninth exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the conditions to be input to the condition input means may be those extracted on the basis of contents recommended in the past to a user who is attempting to receive recommendation or on the basis of contents recommended to the user and specified by the user.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 32, line 23:

In the twenty-ninth exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the condition input means may input the externally input conditions and the automatically extracted conditions, and

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 33, line 6:

In the thirty-third and thirty-fourth exemplary embodiments of the present invention, the system may be provided with an advertisement counter for counting the number of times the advertisement is specified, wherein

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 33, line 12:



In the twenty-fourth to twenty-eighth and thirtieth to thirty-fourth exemplary embodiments of the present invention, the condition input means may input the conditions by using a one-dimensional or two-dimensional interface.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 33, line 16:

In the twenty-fourth to thirty-fourth exemplary embodiments of the present invention, the contents recommended to the user in a predetermined period in the past may not be recommended again to the user by the recommendation means.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 33, line 20:

In the twenty-fourth, twenty-fifth, twenty-eighth and thirty-fourth exemplary embodiments of the present invention, contents including a character string coincident with the character string included in the input conditions may be selected from the content database and recommended.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 20 with the following amended claim:

1       20. (As Amended) An information recommendation apparatus according to  
2 one of claims 1 to 6 and 13 to 18, wherein said condition input means inputs said  
3 conditions by using a one-dimensional or two-dimensional interface.

1       Please replace claim 21 with the following amended claim:

1       21. (As Amended) An information recommendation apparatus according to  
2 one of claims 1 to 11 and 13 to 18, wherein said recommendation means does not  
3 recommend said contents recommended to a user in a predetermined period in the  
4 past to said user again.

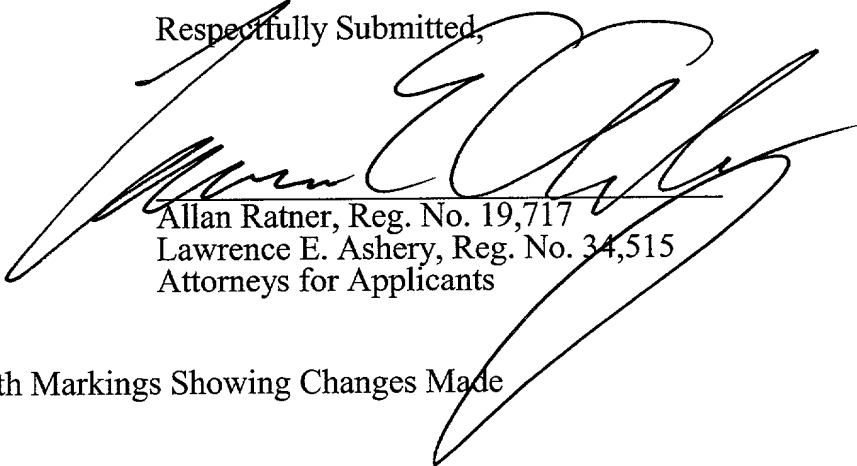
Please replace claim 22 with the following amended claim:

1       22. (As Amended) An information recommendation apparatus according to  
2 one of claims 1, 2, 5 to 11 and 13 to 18, wherein said recommendation means  
3 selects and recommends contents including a character string coincident with the  
4 character string included in said input conditions from said content database.

Please replace claim 37 with the following amended claim:

1           37. (As Amended) A program, in an information recommendation apparatus  
2 of claims 2-11, 13, 14, and 16-18, for making a computer function as all or part of  
3 recommendation means of selecting and recommending contents coincident with  
4 or similar to conditions input by condition input means of inputting said conditions  
5 represented by predetermined items and attribute values corresponding thereto,  
6 from among contents formed of plural pieces of data having plural items and  
7 attribute values corresponding thereto and stored in a content database in which  
8 said contents are registered by registration means.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Allan Ratner, Reg. No. 19,717  
Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515  
Attorneys for Applicants

LEA/lm

Enclosure: Version With Markings Showing Changes Made

Dated: May 9, 2001

Suite 301  
One Westlakes, Berwyn  
P.O. Box 980  
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980  
(610) 407-0700

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is  
hereby authorized to charge payment to  
Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees  
associated with this communication.

**EXPRESS MAIL** Mailing Label Number: EL741592341US

Date of Deposit: May 9, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient  
postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the  
date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, D.C. 20231.

  
Kathleen Libby

**SPECIFICATION:**

~~The 1st invention~~ A first exemplary embodiment of the present invention (corresponding to claim 1) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

~~The 2nd invention~~ A second exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 2~~) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

The 3rd invention A third exemplary embodiment of the present invention (corresponding to claim 3) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

The 4th invention A fourth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (corresponding to claim 4) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

The ~~5th invention~~ A fifth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (corresponding to claim 5) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

The 6th invention A sixth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (corresponding to claim 6) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to 5th invention the fifth exemplary embodiment, wherein the number of registration times of said user is determined (a) by checking the access history of

said user with respect to registration or (b) by assigning the user ID of the registrant to said content and by using said user ID.

Specification at page 9, line 6:

~~The 7th invention~~ A seventh exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 7~~) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Specification at page 9, line 23:

~~The 8th invention~~ An eighth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 8~~) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to ~~7th invention~~ the seventh exemplary embodiment, wherein the conditions to be input to said condition input means are those extracted on the basis of contents registered in the past by a user who will receive recommendation.

Specification at page 10, line 4:

~~The 9th invention~~ A ninth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 9~~) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to ~~7th invention~~ the seventh exemplary embodiment, wherein the characteristic of each item of said user is obtained by calculation each time said user registers said data.

Specification at page 10, line 9:

~~The 10th invention~~ A tenth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 10~~) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to ~~7th invention~~ the seventh exemplary embodiment, wherein the conditions to be input to said condition input means are extracted on the basis of contents recommended in the past to a user who is attempting to receive recommendation or on the basis of contents recommended to and specified by said user.

Specification at page 10, line 17:

~~The 11th invention~~ An eleventh exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 11~~) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to ~~10th invention~~ the tenth exemplary embodiment, wherein

the characteristic of each item of said user is obtained by calculation by characteristic calculation means each time said user receives recommendation or each time said user receives recommendation and specifies the contents.

Specification at page 10, line 25:

~~The 12th invention~~ A twelfth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 12~~) relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to 8th or 10th inventions the eighth or tenth exemplary embodiments, wherein, when said conditions are extracted from said contents, said conditions having tendencies opposite to those of said contents are extracted.

Specification at page 11, line 6:

~~The 13th invention~~ A thirteenth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 13~~) relates to is an information recommendation apparatus according to 7th invention the seventh exemplary embodiment, wherein said condition input means inputs said externally input conditions and said automatically extracted conditions, and

Specification at page 11, line 16:

~~The 14th invention~~ A fourteenth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 14~~) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Specification at page 12, line 21:

~~The 15th invention~~ A fifteenth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 15~~) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Specification at page 13, line 15:

~~The 16th invention~~ A sixteenth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 16~~) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Specification at page 14, line 21:

~~The 17th invention~~ A seventeenth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 17~~) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Specification at page 15, line 16:

~~The 18th invention~~ An eighteenth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 18~~) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Specification at page 16, line 16:

~~The 19th invention~~ A nineteenth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 19~~) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to 17th or 18th inventions the seventeenth or eighteenth exemplary embodiments, wherein

Specification at page 16, line 24:

~~The 20th invention~~ A twentieth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 20~~) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to one of 1st to 6th the first to sixth and 13th to 19th inventions thirteenth to nineteenth exemplary embodiments, wherein said condition input means inputs said conditions by using a one-dimensional or two-dimensional interface.

Specification at page 17, line 5:

~~The 21st invention~~ A twenty-first exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 21~~) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to one of 1st to 19th inventions the first to nineteenth exemplary embodiments, wherein said recommendation means does not recommend said contents recommended to a user in a predetermined period in the past to said user again.

Specification at page 17, line 11:

~~The 22nd invention~~ A twenty-second exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 22~~) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus according to one of 1st, 2nd, 5th the first, second, and fifth to nineteenth

exemplary embodiments to 19th inventions, wherein said recommendation means selects and recommends contents including a character string coincident with the character string included in said input conditions from said content database.

Specification at page 17, line 18:

~~The 23rd invention~~ A twenty-third exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 23~~) is relates to an information recommendation apparatus comprising:

Specification at page 18, line 19:

~~The 24th invention~~ A twenty-fourth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 24~~) is relates to an information recommendation system comprising:

Specification at page 19, line 11:

~~The 25th invention~~ A twenty-fifth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 25~~) is relates to an information recommendation system comprising:

Specification at page 20, line 4:

~~The 26th invention~~ A twenty-sixth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 26~~) is relates to an information recommendation system comprising:

Specification at page 20, line 23:

~~The 27th invention~~ A twenty-seventh exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 27~~) is relates to an information recommendation system comprising:

Specification at page 21, line 17:

~~The 28th invention~~ A twenty-eighth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 28~~) is relates to an information recommendation system comprising:

Specification at page 22, line 12:

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176





~~The 36th invention~~ A thirty-sixth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 36~~) is relates to a program, in an information recommendation apparatus according to ~~1st invention~~ the first exemplary embodiment, for making a computer function as all or part of recommendation means of selecting and recommending contents coincident with or similar to conditions input by condition input means of inputting said conditions represented by predetermined items and attribute values corresponding thereto designated through the terminal of a user via the Internet, from among contents formed of plural pieces of data having plural items and attribute values corresponding thereto and stored in a content database in which said contents are registered by registration means.

Specification at page 29, line 25:

~~The 37th invention~~ A thirty-seventh exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 37~~) is relates to a program, in an information recommendation apparatus according to ~~one of 2nd to 14th~~ second to fourteenth and 16th to 18th inventions sixteenth to eighteenth exemplary embodiments, for making a computer function as all or part of recommendation means of selecting and recommending contents coincident with or similar to conditions input by condition input means of inputting said conditions represented by predetermined items and attribute values corresponding thereto, from among contents formed of plural pieces of data having plural items and attribute values corresponding thereto and stored in a content database in which said contents are registered by registration means.

Specification at page 30, line 13:

~~The 38th invention~~ A thirty-eighth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 38~~) is relates to a program, in an information recommendation apparatus according to ~~15th invention~~ the fifteenth exemplary embodiment, for making a computer function as all or part of recommendation means of selecting and recommending recipes coincident with or similar to conditions input by condition input means of inputting said conditions represented by predetermined items and attribute values corresponding thereto, from among said recipes formed of plural pieces of data having plural items and attribute values corresponding thereto and stored in a content database in which said recipes are registered by registration means.

Specification at page 30, line 25:

~~The 39th invention~~ The thirty-ninth exemplary embodiment of the present invention (~~corresponding to claim 39~~) relates to a program, in an information recommendation apparatus according to ~~23rd invention~~ the twenty-third exemplary embodiment, for making a computer function as all or part of recommendation means, in the case when recommendation is performed to said user having an input user ID, of specifying other users whose characteristic information coincident with or similar to said characteristic information to said user having said user ID by using characteristic information, and of selecting and recommending only the contents not recommended to said user having said user ID or the contents recommended to but not specified by said user from among contents registered in the past by said specified user, contents recommended to said user or contents recommended to and specified by said user, from among contents formed of plural pieces of data having plural items and attribute values corresponding thereto and stored in a content database in which said contents are registered by registration means.

Specification at page 31, line 19:

In the ~~28th invention~~ twenty-eighth exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the number of registration times of the user may be determined (a) by checking the access history of the user with respect to registration or (b) by assigning the user ID of the registrant to the content and by using the user ID.

Specification at page 31, line 24:

In the ~~29th invention~~ twenty-ninth exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the conditions to be input to the condition input means may be those extracted on the basis of contents registered in the past by a user who will receive recommendation.

Specification at page 32, line 3:

In the ~~29th invention~~ twenty-ninth exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the system may be provided with a characteristic calculation means of obtaining the characteristic of each item of the user by calculation each time the user registers the data.

Specification at page 32, line 7:

In the ~~29th invention~~ twenty-ninth exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the conditions to be input to the condition input means may be those extracted on the basis of contents recommended in the past to a user who is attempting to receive recommendation or on the basis of contents recommended to the user and specified by the user.

Specification at page 32, line 23:

In the ~~29th invention~~ twenty-ninth exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the condition input means may input the externally input conditions and the automatically extracted conditions, and

Specification at page 33, line 6:

In the ~~33rd and 34th inventions~~ thirty-third and thirty-fourth exemplary embodiments of the present invention, the system may be provided with an advertisement counter for counting the number of times the advertisement is specified, wherein

Specification at page 33, line 12:

In the ~~24th to 28th~~ twenty-fourth to twenty-eighth and ~~30th to 34th~~ thirtieth to thirty-fourth inventions exemplary embodiments of the present invention, the condition input means may input the conditions by using a one-dimensional or two-dimensional interface.

Specification at page 33, line 16:

In the ~~24th to 34th~~ twenty-fourth to thirty-fourth inventions exemplary embodiments of the present invention, the contents recommended to the user in a predetermined period in the past may not be recommended again to the user by the recommendation means.

Specification at page 33, line 20:

In the ~~24th, 25th, 28th to 34th inventions~~ twenty-fourth, twenty-fifth, twenty-eighth and thirty-fourth exemplary embodiments of the present invention, contents including a character string coincident with the character string included

in the input conditions may be selected from the content database and recommended.

CLAIMS:

1           20. (As Amended) An information recommendation apparatus according to  
2 one of claims 1 to 6 and 13 to ~~19~~18, wherein said condition input means inputs  
3 said conditions by using a one-dimensional or two-dimensional interface.

1           21. (As Amended) An information recommendation apparatus according to  
2 one of claims 1 to ~~11~~9 and 13 to 18, wherein said recommendation means does  
3 not recommend said contents recommended to a user in a predetermined period in  
4 the past to said user again.

1           22. (As Amended) An information recommendation apparatus according to  
2 one of claims 1, 2, 5 to 11 and 13 to ~~19~~18, wherein said recommendation means  
3 selects and recommends contents including a character string coincident with the  
4 character string included in said input conditions from said content database.

1           37. (As Amended) A program, in an information recommendation apparatus  
2 ~~according to one of claims 2 to 14 and 16 to 18~~2-11, 13, 14, and 16-18, for making  
3 a computer function as all or part of recommendation means of selecting and  
4 recommending contents coincident with or similar to conditions input by condition  
5 input means of inputting said conditions represented by predetermined items and  
6 attribute values corresponding thereto, from among contents formed of plural  
7 pieces of data having plural items and attribute values corresponding thereto and  
8 stored in a content database in which said contents are registered by registration  
9 means.